CLAIM ADMENDMENTS:

1. (currently amended) A bending method for a multi-layered pipe having one or a plurality of outer pipes disposed concentrically on ~~the~~ an outside of an inner pipe, in which an inside mandrel is inserted into said inner pipe of said multi-layered pipe, a tubular outside mandrel is inserted into the annular space between said inner pipe positioned on the inside and the outer pipe positioned on the outside thereof, and with the mandrels placed inside said multi-layered pipe, the outermost pipe of said multi-layered pipe is clamped to a bending die by a clamping die, said multi-layered pipe is held at a rear of a bending portion of said multi-layered pipe by a pressure die and a crease-removing die, and said multi-layered pipe is bent by causing said clamping die to revolve around said bending die while said inner pipe is pushed in the direction of the distal end of said inner pipe,

wherein an annular outside mandrel having at least three slits formed in the distal end thereof along generating lines is used as said outside mandrel, and said clamping die is caused to revolve around said bending die with the distal ends of said outside mandrel and said inside mandrel positioned so as to protrude toward the distal end of said multi-layered pipe from a bending start point.

2. (currently amended) The bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 1, wherein the distal end of said outside mandrel is

positioned so as to protrude further toward the distal end of said multi-layered pipe than an anticipated bending range.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The ~~An outside mandrel for implementing the~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 1, wherein the distal end portion of the outside mandrel ~~thereof~~ is formed from a material with a high elasticity, and at least three slits are formed along the generating line of the distal end.

5. (currently amended) The ~~mandrel~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 4, wherein one of ultra high molecular weight polyethylene, MC nylon, and polyacetate is used as the material for forming said distal end portion of the outside mandrel.

6. (currently amended) The ~~An inside mandrel for implementing the~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 1, wherein the distal end portion ~~thereof~~ of the inside mandrel is formed from a material with a high elasticity.

7. (currently amended) The ~~mandrel~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 6, wherein one of ultra high molecular weight polyethylene, MC nylon, and polyacetate is used as the material for forming said distal end portion of the outside mandrel. .

8. (currently amended) The ~~An outside mandrel for implementing the~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 2, wherein the distal end portion of the outside mandrel ~~thereof~~ is formed from a material with a high elasticity, and at least three slits are formed along the generating line of the distal end.

9. (currently amended) The ~~An outside mandrel for implementing the~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 3, wherein the distal end portion of the outside mandrel ~~thereof~~ is formed from a material with a high elasticity, and at least three slits are formed along the generating line of the distal end.

10. (currently amended) The ~~An inside mandrel for implementing the~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 2, wherein the distal end portion of the inside mandrel ~~thereof~~ is formed from a material with a high elasticity.

11. (currently amended) The ~~An inside mandrel for implementing the~~ bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 3, wherein the distal end portion of the inside mandrel ~~thereof~~ is formed from a material with a high elasticity.

12. (new) The bending method for a multi-layered pipe according to claim 1, wherein one of ultra high molecular weight polyethylene, MC nylon, and polyacetate is used as the material for forming said distal end portion of the outside mandrel.